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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/830,982	07/05/2001	Oded Kafri	P-2033-US	7273

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Arlington, VA 22202-3709

EXAMINER

HOOSAIN, ALLAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2645

DATE MAILED: 07/05/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/830,982

Applicant(s)

KAFRI, ODED

Examiner

Allan Hoosain

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 July 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 July 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by **Hyde-Thomson** (US 5,557,659).

As to Claim 1, with respect to Figures 1 and 8, **Hyde-Thomson** teaches a method for forwarding a telephone **call**, in which the caller receives a "no answer" or "busy" signal, comprising the steps of:

routing the incoming telephone call to a dedicated server (Col.13, lines 13-18);

identifying the number being dialed (Col. 13, lines 13-18);

associating an email address with said dialed number (Col. 13, lines 18-20); and

forwarding the voice message as an email message to said email address (Col. 13, lines 20-40).

As to Claim 2, **Hyde-Thomson** teaches a method according to claim 1 wherein said step of forwarding comprises the steps of:

digitizing the voice message into a wave file (Col. 13, lines 1-6); and

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attaching said wave file to the email message (Col. 13, lines 6-10).

As to Claim 3, **Hyde-Thomson** teaches a method according to claim 1, and further comprising the steps of:

storing said voice message in a voice box (Figure 17); and

the recipient retrieving said voice message by telephone (Figure 17).

As to Claim 4, with respect to Figures 1 and 8, **Hyde-Thomson** teaches a method for forwarding a telephone call in email message format to a recipient, the method comprising the steps of:

the caller dialing a dedicated telephone number (Col. 13, lines 13-18);

identifying the telephone number of the caller (Col. 13, lines 29-31);

the caller entering the telephone number of the recipient of the telephone call (Col. 13, lines 13-22);

associating an email address with the telephone number of the recipient (Col. 13, lines 18-20); and

forwarding the voice message as an email message to said email address (Col. 13, lines 20-40).

As to Claim 5, **Hyde-Thomson** teaches a method according to claim 4, wherein said step of forwarding comprises the steps of:

digitizing the voice message into a wave file (Figure 8, label 803); and

attaching said wave file to the email message (Figure 8, label 808).

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As to Claim 6, **Hyde-Thomson** teaches a method according to claim 4, and further comprising the steps of:

storing said voice message in a voice box (Figure 17); and

the recipient retrieving said voice message by telephone (Figure 17, label 1700).

As to Claim 7, **Hyde-Thomson** teaches a method according to claim 4, and further comprising the step of:

verifying whether the caller's telephone number matches the registered telephone number of the caller.

As to Claim 8, **Hyde-Thomson** teaches a method according to claim 7, and if the identified telephone number does not match the registered telephone number of the caller, further comprising the step of:

only forwarding the voice message if a correct password and the registered telephone number associated with the caller is verified (Figure 14, label 1406).

As to Claim 9, **Hyde-Thomson** teaches a method according to claim 4, and only if the recipient telephone number is listed as being associated with a registered member, allowing the forwarding of the message (Figure 14, labels 1401 and 1405).

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***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hyde-Thomson** in view of **Bobo, II** (US 5,675,509).

As to Claims 10 and 12-14, with respect to Figures 1 and 8, **Hyde-Thomson** teaches a method for forwarding a facsimile message in email message format to a recipient; the method comprising the steps of:

the caller dialing a dedicated facsimile number (Col. 6, lines 57-65);

identifying the telephone number of the caller (Col. 12, lines 30-33);

the caller entering the facsimile number of the recipient of the facsimile (Col. 6, lines 57-62);

associating an email address with the facsimile number of the recipient (Col. 8, lines 1-7);  
and

forwarding the facsimile message in email message format to said email address (Col. 18, lines 45-56);

**Hyde-Thomson** does not teach the following limitation:

“forwarding a facsimile message”

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However, it is obvious that Hyde-Thomson suggests the limitation. This is because **Hyde-Thomson** teaches support of facsimile communications and processing all types of messages (Col. 2, lines 26-34 and Col. 3, lines 25-32). **Bobo, II** teaches the limitation (Col. 18, lines 45-56). Having the cited art at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to add facsimile forwarding capability to **Hyde-Thomson's** invention for forwarding facsimile messages as taught by **Bobo, II's** invention in order to provide support for all types of messages.

As to Claim 11, **Bobo, II** teaches a method according to claim 10, wherein said step of forwarding comprises the steps of:

**Hyde-Thomson** does not teach the following limitations:

- (a) converting the facsimile message into a TIF file
- (b) attaching said TIF file to the email message

However, it is obvious that **Hyde-Thomson** suggests the limitation. This is because **Hyde-Thomson** teaches support of facsimile communications and processing all types of messages (Col. 2, lines 26-34 and Col. 3, lines 25-32). **Bobo, II** teaches the limitation (Figures 5-6). Having the cited art at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to add facsimile capability to **Hyde-Thomson's** invention for converting facsimile messages as taught by **Bobo, II's** invention in order to provide support for all types of messages.

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***Conclusion***

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

**Goldhagen et al.** (US 5,633,916) teach an integrated messaging system for delivering voice and facsimile messages.

**Picard et al.** (US 6,233,318) teach an integrated messaging system for storing all types of messages.

**Bartholomew et al.** (US 6,215,858) teach a network for sending voice mail as facsimile messages.

6. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
**or faxed to:**

(703) 872-9314, (for formal communications intended for entry)

**Or:**

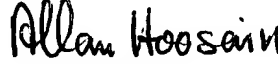
(703) 306-0377 (for customer service assistance)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Allan Hoosain** whose telephone number is (703) 305-4012. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 7 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Fan Tsang**, can be reached on (703) 305-4895.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

  
**Allan Hoosain**  
**Primary Examiner**  
**7/1/02**